(a) whether Government have a proposal to notify ancient Hindu pilgrimages Badrinath, Kedarnath, Gangotri and Yamunotri in Uttaranchal as protected sites under the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have also proposed to ASI to maintain and beautify these spots; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A team of field office at Dehradun has visited the sites for compilation of revenue data and preparation of site plans.

(c) and (d) The conservation, preservation, day-to-day maintenance and creating environmental development around the monument of national importance are carried out as per archaeological principles by the Archaeological Survey of India.

Central assistance to Orissa tourism industry

764. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the tourism sector in Kerala is set to witness a boom and the State is expecting a decisive spurt in foreign tourists arrival;

(b) whether any help has been rendered by the Central Government to States to boost tourism industry;

(c)if so, details thereof; and

(d) whether the Central Government propose to extend such a help to the cash-strapped Orissa tourism industry to boost its economy, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) In the year 2002-03,212 projects amounting to Rs. 111.21 crore and in the year 2003-04,91 projects amounting to Rs. 103.88 crore have been sanctioned to various States in the country.

(d) The following projects have been sanctioned for Orissa State during 2002-03 and 2003-04 to date:

2002-03

(1) Rural Tourism Project at Raghurajpur

(2) Computerization of Office and IT Groups

2003-04

(l)Konark Festival

(2) Folk Dance Festival

(3) Development of Puri as a Tourist Destination

Restoration of St. John the Baptist Church, Mumbai

765. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to restore the 463-year old St. John the Baptist Church at Andheri (East), Mumbai;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) to (c) St. John the Baptist Church at Andheri (East), Mumbai is not a Centrally to protected monument, hence no maintenance and conservation work has been carried out by the Archaeological Survey of India.

Power of officials of CEIB

766. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons that even with the existence of a specialized set-up like the Central Economic Intelligence Bureau, the Central Bureau of Investigation is handling investigations into financial frauds;

(b) whether Government propose to empower the officers of the CEIB to investigate financial frauds in future; and